

1842-0018

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Johnson et al. ) Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer  
Application No.: 10/624,066 ) Art Unit: 3733  
Filed: July 21, 2003 ) Confirmation No. 5163  
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE ) May 18, 2006

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

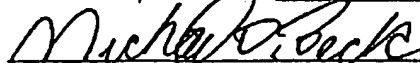
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendment and arguments in response to the Final Office Action dated May 4, 2006. This response is being filed within two months of this mailing date (which expires on July 4, 2006). It is believed that no extensions of time or associated fees are due; however, in the event that an extension is required, the Commissioner is requested to provide such extension and is authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 18, 2006 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300.



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